

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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KEVIN WHITFIELD,

Plaintiff,

v.

CHAMBERS BROADSPIRE SERVICES,
INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:25-cv-01049-GMN-EJY

**AMENDED ORDER
AND
REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**
(Vacating ECF No. 6)

On July 2, 2025, the Court issued an Order granting Plaintiff's Application to Proceed *in forma pauperis* ("IFP") and recommending Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint (ECF No. 4) be dismissed with prejudice because the Court lacks subject matter jurisdiction over the dispute. ECF No. 6. On July 7, 2025, Plaintiff filed a Second Amended Complaint. ECF No. 7. Because the Second Amended Complaint effectively nullifies the First Amended Complaint but, unfortunately, again fails to establish a basis for the exercise of federal jurisdiction, the Court vacates its Order and Report and Recommendation at ECF No. 6, and files this Amended Order and its Report and Recommendation in its place.

I. Screening Standard

Having granted Plaintiff's IFP application, the Second Amended Complaint is screened under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2). Under this standard, the reviewing Court must identify any cognizable claims and dismiss any claims that are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted or seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2).

Pro se pleadings must be liberally construed. *Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep't*, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1988). A federal court must dismiss a claim if the action "is frivolous or malicious[,] fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted[,] or seeks monetary relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2). The standard for dismissing a complaint for failure to state a claim is established by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6).

1 When a court dismisses a complaint under § 1915(e), the plaintiff should be given leave to amend
 2 the complaint with directions to cure its deficiencies unless it is clear from the face of the complaint
 3 that the deficiencies cannot be cured by amendment. *Cato v. United States*, 70 F.3d 1103, 1106 (9th
 4 Cir. 1995). In making this determination, the Court treats all allegations of material fact stated in
 5 the complaint as true, and the court construes them in the light most favorable to the plaintiff.
 6 *Warshaw v. Xoma Corp.*, 74 F.3d 955, 957 (9th Cir. 1996).

7 Allegations of a pro se complainant are held to less stringent standards than pleadings drafted
 8 by lawyers. *Hughes v. Rowe*, 449 U.S. 5, 9 (1980). While the standard under Rule 12(b)(6) does
 9 not require detailed factual allegations, a plaintiff must plead more than mere labels and conclusions.
 10 *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007). A formulaic recitation of the elements of a
 11 cause of action is insufficient. *Id.* In addition, a reviewing court should “begin by identifying
 12 pleadings [allegations] that, because they are no more than mere conclusions, are not entitled to the
 13 assumption of truth.” *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 679 (2009). “While legal conclusions can
 14 provide the framework of a complaint, they must be supported with factual allegations.” *Id.* “When
 15 there are well-pleaded factual allegations, a court should assume their veracity and then determine
 16 whether they plausibly give rise to an entitlement to relief.” *Id.* “Determining whether a complaint
 17 states a plausible claim for relief ... [is] a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to
 18 draw on its judicial experience and common sense.” *Id.*

19 Finally, all or part of a complaint may be dismissed *sua sponte* if the plaintiff’s claims lack
 20 an arguable basis either in law or in fact. This includes claims based on legal conclusions that are
 21 untenable (e.g., claims against defendants who are immune from suit or claims of infringement of a
 22 legal interest which clearly does not exist), as well as claims based on fanciful factual allegations
 23 (e.g., fantastic or delusional scenarios). *Neitzke v. Williams*, 490 U.S. 319, 327–28 (1989);
 24 *McKeever v. Block*, 932 F.2d 795, 798 (9th Cir. 1991).

25 **II. Discussion**

26 As stated in the Second Amended Complaint (ECF No. 7), Plaintiff lives in North Las Vegas,
 27 Nevada, and alleges Defendant Chambers Medical Group and its Nurse Practitioner Jared Head
 28 failed to provide him appropriate medical care and committed state law harm in what is reasonably

1 interpreted as a battery. *Id.* at 4. Plaintiff claims he suffered \$100,000 in “medical bill pain and
2 suffering and emotional distress” as well as punitive damage as a result of Defendants’ actions. *Id.*
3 Plaintiff identifies Chambers Medical Group as located on North Decatur Blvd., in Las Vegas,
4 Nevada, and Jared Head as a Nurse Practitioner working for Chambers Medical Group. *Id.* at 2, 4.
5 Plaintiff’s allegations establish neither diversity nor federal question jurisdiction.

6 Federal district courts are courts of limited jurisdiction, possessing only that power
7 authorized by Constitution and statute.” *K2 Am. Corp. v. Roland Oil & Gas, LLC*, 653 F.3d 1024,
8 1027 (9th Cir. 2011) (quotation omitted). Federal district courts “have original jurisdiction of all
9 civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States.” 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
10 This is commonly referred to a federal question jurisdiction. Federal district courts also have original
11 jurisdiction over civil actions in diversity cases “where the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or
12 value of \$75,000” and where the matter is between “citizens of different States.” 28 U.S.C. §
13 1332(a). “Section 1332 requires complete diversity of citizenship; each of the plaintiffs must be a
14 citizen of a different state than each of the defendants.” *Morris v. Princess Cruises, Inc.*, 236 F.3d
15 1061, 1067 (9th Cir. 2001). Federal courts have the authority to determine their own jurisdiction.
16 *Special Investments, Inc. v. Aero Air, Inc.*, 360 F.3d 989, 992 (9th Cir. 2004). “The party asserting
17 federal jurisdiction bears the burden of proving that the case is properly in federal court.” *McCauley*
18 *v. Ford Motor Co.*, 264 F.3d 952, 957 (9th Cir. 2001) (citing *McNutt v. General Motors Acceptance*
19 *Corp.*, 298 U.S. 178, 189 (1936)). A court may raise the question of subject matter jurisdiction *sua*
20 *sponte*, and it must dismiss a case if it determines it lacks subject matter jurisdiction. *Id.*; Fed. R.
21 Civ. P. 12(h)(3).

22 Plaintiff’s allegations do not establish diversity jurisdiction. The Second Amended
23 Complaint supports the conclusion that Plaintiff and Defendants are Nevada residents, which
24 precludes the application of jurisdiction based on diversity. Plaintiff also does not allege any
25 wrongdoing the vindication of which would fall under federal law or the U.S. Constitution. Battery
26 is a Nevada state law tort claim that Plaintiff may pursue in a Nevada state court such as the Eighth
27 Judicial District Court for Clark County.
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